

The Air Program continued implementing its Uinta Basin Strategy that was developed in 2014 to address the ozone NAAQS air quality issues. EPA/UT DAQ/Tribe held monthly coordination calls. On Dec. 17th and Jan. 14th, the RA's office conducted tribal consultation with members of the Ute Business Committee to discuss the purpose and advantage of doing a reservation-specific FIP. On January 28th, we briefed OMB on the FIP. In February, we received a Resolution from the Ute Business Committee that is general supportive of the reservation-specific FIP as long as it levels the playing field with requirements on state lands and allows continued economic development. The Uinta Basin experienced preliminary ozone NAAQS exceedances on February 12-16, with values as high as 120 ppb at the Ouray monitor. We have drafted a reservation-specific FIP for early VOC controls prior to the 2015 ozone designations. The FIP includes the same controls that Utah requires for oil and gas operators on state lands. The FIP is currently in HQ for review. Between October 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016, we issued six minor NSR permits to existing sources on the U&O Reservation (five oil and gas, one Deseret Bonanza Power Plant). All permit actions were to transfer emissions limits that were previously established through other mechanisms, such as Part 71 operating permits, consent decrees, or other judicial agreements. The permit actions during that period did not impose any new control requirements, with the exception of the Deseret permit (the agreement required installation of controls). The other five facilities were already operating under the control requirements permitted, we just transferred them to a minor NSR permit. During that time we also received several registrations for new minor oil and natural gas sources, as well as updated registrations for sources that had previously submitted registrations, but no emissions control requirements are imposed through the registration program of the Tribal Minor NSR Rule. We had put five oxide monitors on four schools and the Tribal HQ building last year, and then we had the tribe take those monitors down this winter. On March 14-15 we met with the Ute Indian Tribe's air program and Utah DAQ in Ft. Duchesne to present an Ozone 101 training. The training covered health effects of air pollution, current ozone design values and regulatory monitors, timeline of the designation process, implications of different classifications (what's involved in SIP/FIP, demonstrating attainment), definition of Uinta Basin airshed for designation purposes, winter ozone field studies, ozone modeling for NAAQS attainment, Uinta Basin modeling currently available, background ozone, oil and gas emissions sources, and VOC and NO_x emissions on the Uintah & Ouray Indian Reservation. Additionally, we continued to work with the Tribe and the Utah DAQ on developing an updated emissions inventory for oil and gas sources in the Uinta Basin. This effort involved soliciting activity and emissions information from oil and gas operators in late 2015, Q/Aing their submittals, and compiling the information into a database. The results cover all major source categories for over 96% of all facilities – information that will be critical to future air quality planning efforts in the basin.